



CWP, 2002

Rain Barrels for Your Home

Unofficial Guidance for Backyard Retrofitters

February 2007

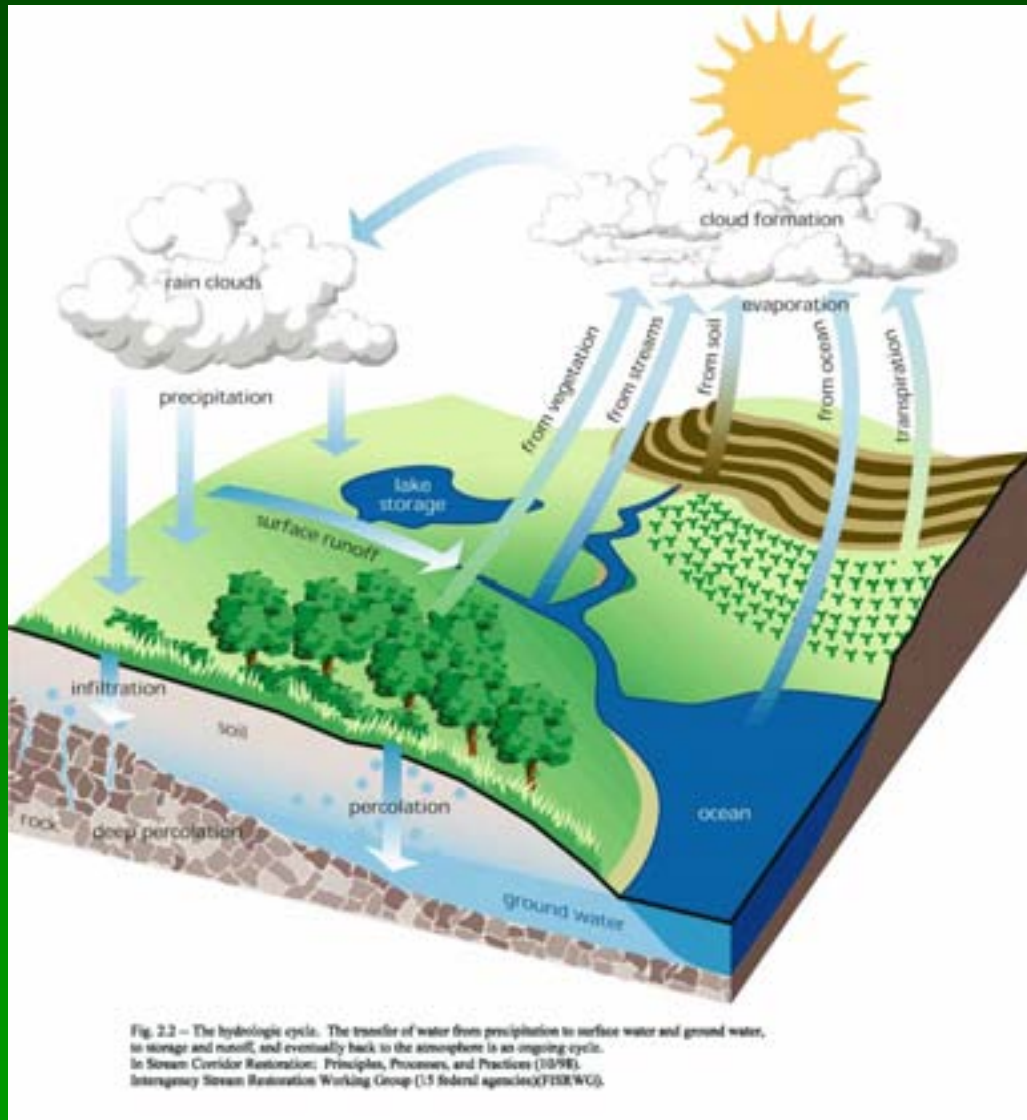
by Catherine Tunis, Chair

Takoma Park Committee
on the Environment



Why stop the rain?

**> 10%
Impervious
Surface
Degrades
Watershed
Function**



Source: Stream Corridor
Restoration guide
USDA, EPA, DOI et al
[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/
technical/
stream_restoration/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/stream_restoration/)

How much Rain Can I Get?

Footprint of House: Width 10 ft x Length

15 ft

Number of Downspouts 1

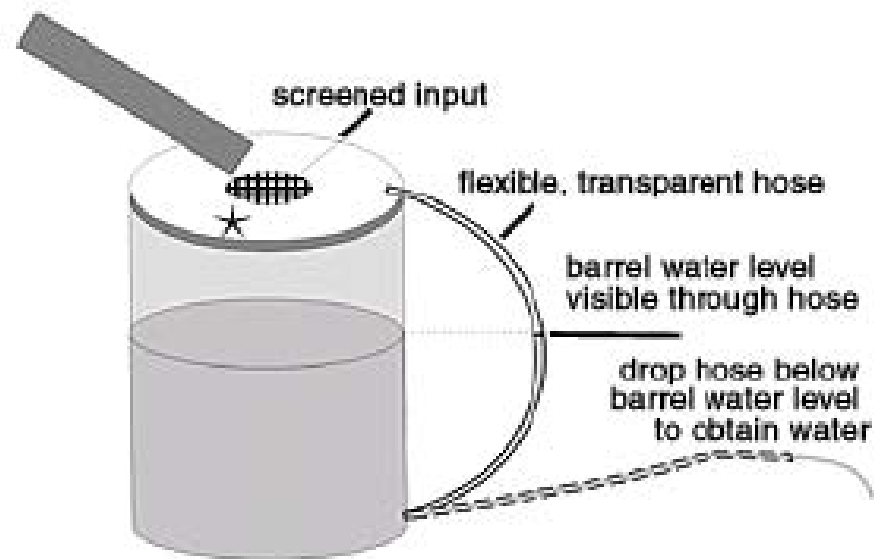
Inches of Rain 1 inches

The number of gallons from each rainspout for
1 inches of rain is 93 gallons.

The number of gallons from each rainspout over a
year is 3255 gallons !!

http://www.vacd.org/winooski/winooski_raingarden_water.shtml

Simple Rain Barrel Design Considerations



Critical Points

- modify downspout to barrel inflow site
- screened inflow design
- outflow hose/barrel connection
- design to keep hose above barrel rim

Source: <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/ed/rainbarrel.html>

Takoma Park Rain Barrel Workshops

- May 7, 2006--\$35
- May, 2007

To Register, call
Public Works at
301-891-7633



Four Holes (optional)

Inlet
(6-8 in)



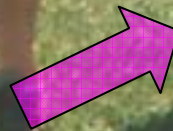
Over-flow
(1 ½ in)



• Spigot
(3/4 in)



• Drain
(3/4 in)





Inlet (6-8 in)

Rainwater enters
via downspout

Over-flow (1 ½ in)

attached to drain pipe

Spigot (3/4 in)

Optional spigot for filling
buckets

Drain (3/4 in)

Empty barrel; hook to
garden hose

5.22.2000

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(1 ½ in) Overflow Drain Pipe

(4 in) Drain Pipe for Downspout

Inlet filter
(with mesh
screen cover)

Downspout
Adapter

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5.22.200



Inlet filter
(with mesh
screen cover)

Downspout
Adapter

(1 ½ in)
couplers for
overflow

Garden hose and associated
(¾ in) adapters

(½ in ID;
¾ in OD)
spigot

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5.22.2

Cut the down spout to
install diverter



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5. 22.

Attach downspout
adaptor...





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5.22.

Cut pipe end at angle...



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5. 22.

A photograph showing a black corrugated pipe, likely for aeration, positioned vertically inside a white plastic container. The pipe's lower end is resting on a circular, black, perforated filter screen. A magenta oval highlights the contact point between the pipe and the screen. A magenta line connects the text 'Rests on inlet filter screen' to this oval. The background shows a grassy area and trees.

Rests on
inlet filter
screen

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Screen catches debris
Lift off pipe and wipe clean

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5. 22. 200

Inlet Filter keeps debris out...



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5.22.2




Inlet (6-8 in)
Rainwater enters
via downspout

Over-flow (1 ½ in)
attached to drain pipe

Spigot (¾ in)
Optional spigot for filling
buckets

Drain (¾ in)
Empty barrel; hook to
garden hose



Insert drain
pipe into
coupler first

Hold /screw
from inside
barrel

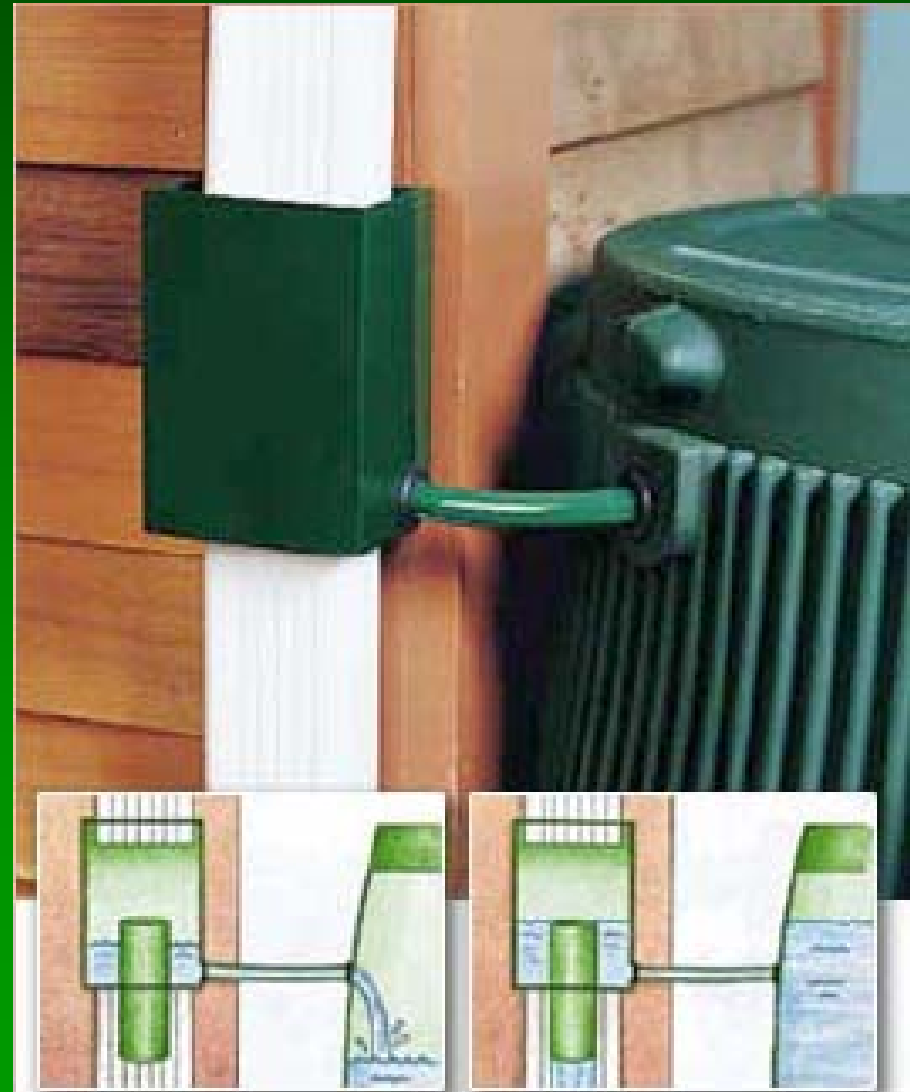
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5. 22. 2000

Another Downspout Diverter

- o Uses 1 inch hole, 5 inches from top of barrel
- o Costs about \$25
- o Buy thru catalog
- o Excess rain goes back down downspout

Source: <http://www.gardeners.com/Downspout-Diverter/default/33-991.prd>



Assemble Drain Parts...



Open/Close
Valve

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5.22.21

Full tank, lots of head pressure...



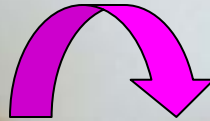


It can even reach
the garden...

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Insert spigot...



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That's it!

- ◇ Water Quality
- ◇ Mosquitoes
- ◇ Winter
- ◇ Maintenance
- ◇ Water Pressure

